

Battery electrode preparation, assembly, and testing procedures: LiFePO4

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Battery electrode preparation, assembly, and testing procedures: LiFePO₄

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Subcontract Report for Drs. Ming Tang and Brandon Wood, LLNL

LLNL Subcontract Report

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We have hosted and trained LLNL postdoc (Dr. Jianchao Ye) in my group at WPI for battery electrode preparation, battery assembly and testings and Dr. Ye should have the capability to do all the tests now. We also tested 5 LiFePO4 samples from LLNL. The following are the experimental results.

Preparation of samples

Super C65 and PVDF were mixed, and then LFP was added into the mixture and mixed. The resulting slurry was pasted on the Al current collector (For uniform of electrode, two tape strips were used to fix Al current collector). The resultant was dried in oven. The dried electrode was pouched into 1/4 inch disks for cell assembles.

Electrochemical characterization

Each LFP disk was electrochemically tested against Li foil in a Swagelok cell with stainless-steel current collectors. A piece of Li foil was pressed onto a collector, two pieces of Celgard 2500 microporous separator placed over it, a piece of the cathode disk centered over the separator, and cell was sealed with pressure to ensure good contact between the disk and the other collector. 1M LiPF6 electrolyte solution in ethylene carbonate (EC), diethyl carbonate (DEC), and dimethyl carbonate (DMC) (1:1:1) was used to fabricate cells. Each cell was tested with a galvanostat/potentiostat/impedance analyzer (Bio-logic VMP3). CC charging was used until cell voltage reached 4.2 V. Each cell was discharged to 2.0V.

Results

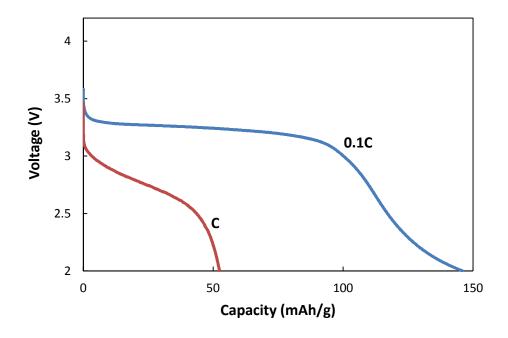


Fig. 1. Discharge curves of LFP-080712-HT-600 at current rate C/10 and C.

Fig. 1 showed the discharge curves of LFP-080712-HT-600 at C/10 and C. At 0.1C, specific capacity was 146 mAh/g, and only 52 mAh/g was maintained at C.

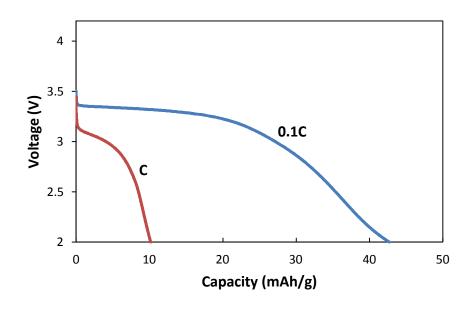


Fig. 2. discharge curves of LFP-080712 at current rate C/10 and C.

Fig. 2 showed the discharge curves of LFP-080712 at C/10 and C. While at 0.1C specific capacity was 42 mAh/g, it was 10 mAh/g at C.

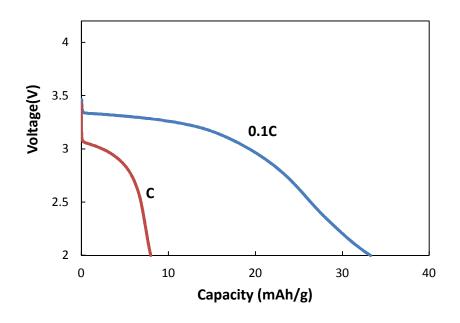


Fig. 3. Discharge curves of LFP-1024 at current rate C/10 and C.

Fig. 3 showed the discharge curves of LFP-1024 at C/10 and C. At 0.1C, specific capacity was 33 mAh/g, and at C, it was only 8 mAh/g.

Previous results

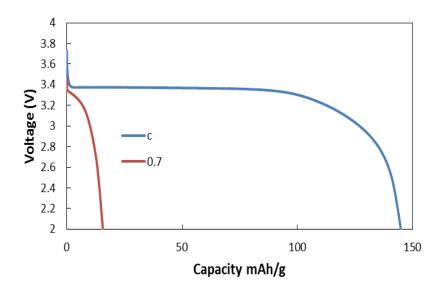


Fig.4. Discharge curves of LFP-C and LFP-0.7 at current rate C/10.

Fig. 4 showed the discharge curves of LFP-C and LFP-0.7 at C/10 and C. Specific capacity of LFP-C was 144 mAh/g, and for LFP-0.7, it was only 15 mAh/g.